

Assembly Bill No. 2022

CHAPTER 910

An act to amend Sections 12050, 12051, 12053, and 12054 of, and to add Sections 12050.2 and 12052.5 to, the Penal Code, relating to firearms.

[Approved by Governor September 27, 1998. Filed
with Secretary of State September 28, 1998.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2022, R. Wright. Firearms.

(1) Existing law authorizes the sheriff of a county or the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county to issue a license to carry a concealed firearm upon proof of specified criteria, including that the person applying is either a resident of the county or a city within the county when application is made to the sheriff, or a resident of the city when application is made to a police chief.

This bill alternatively would authorize the issuance of a license upon proof that the person applying is a resident of, or spends a substantial period of time in the applicant's principal place of employment or business in the county or a city within the county, when application is made to the sheriff. The bill would provide that a license issued to a person based on his or her place of employment or business is valid only in the county where it was originally issued and is not valid for more than 90 days, and an application to renew or extend that license may be granted upon the concurrence of the licensing authority that originally issued it and the licensing authority with jurisdiction over the licensee's residence. The bill also would require all applicants, including applicants for license renewal, to complete a specified course of training. The bill would provide that a city, city and county, or county may be considered an applicant's "principal place of employment or business" only if the applicant is physically present in that jurisdiction during a substantial part of his or her working hours for purposes of that employment or business.

Additionally, this bill would require each licensing authority to publish and make available a written policy summarizing these provisions. The bill would require the licensing authority to give written notice to the applicant indicating if the application is approved or denied within 90 days of the initial application for a new license or a license renewal or 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the Department of Justice, whichever is later.

The bill would require the Attorney General to convene a committee to develop a standard application form for licenses. The bill would require the Attorney General to adopt and implement this standard application form for licenses on or before July 1, 1999. The bill would provide that an applicant shall not be required to complete any additional application or form for a license, or to provide any information other than that necessary to complete the standard application form.

Commencing on or before January 1, 2000, and annually thereafter, the bill would require each licensing authority to submit to the Attorney General the total number of licenses issued to reserve peace officers and judges. The bill would require the Attorney General to collect and record the information submitted by each licensing authority.

By increasing the duties of local law enforcement entities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Under existing law, a license to carry a concealed firearm issued pursuant to the provisions described in (1) above is valid for any period of time not to exceed one year from the date of the license.

This bill would extend the validity of a license issued pursuant to the provisions described in (1) above to any period of time not to exceed 2 years. The bill would provide that any license issued pursuant to these provisions shall expire 90 days after the licensee moves from the county of issuance if the licensee's place of residence was the basis for issuance of the license. Additionally, the bill would specify that if the licensee's place of employment or business was the basis for issuance of the license pursuant to these provisions, the license is valid for any period of time not to exceed 90 days, and would impose additional restrictions and requirements upon such a license. The bill would also provide that if the applicant is a peace officer, the validity of the license issued pursuant to these provisions shall be any period of time not to exceed 4 years, subject to specified conditions.

(3) Existing law authorizes the licensing authority to charge a fee not to exceed \$3 for processing an application for a new license or a license renewal or processing an amended license.

This bill instead would authorize the licensing authority to charge a fee in an amount equal to the actual costs for processing an application for a new license or license renewal, excluding fingerprint and training costs, but in no case to exceed \$100, and a fee not to exceed \$10 for processing an amended license. The bill would also authorize the licensing authority to charge an additional fee not to exceed \$25, for processing license renewal applications. The bill would provide that these local fees may be increased at a rate not to exceed the California Consumer Price Index, as specified, and shall be transmitted to the treasury of the city, city and county, or county of the licensing authority. The bill would provide that no other requirement, charge, assessment, fee, or condition that requires the



payment of any additional funds by the applicant may be imposed by any licensing authority as a condition of the application for a license, and would restrict the collection of the fee for processing an application for a new license or license renewal, as specified.

The bill also would provide that if psychological testing on the initial application is required by the licensing authority, the license applicant shall be referred to a licensed psychologist used by the licensing authority for the psychological testing of its own employees; would authorize the licensing authority to charge the applicant for the actual cost of the testing in an amount not to exceed \$150; would provide that additional psychological testing of an applicant seeking license renewal, shall be required only if there is compelling evidence to indicate that a test is necessary, and would provide that the cost to the applicant for this additional testing shall not exceed \$150.

(4) This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 12050 of the Penal Code enacted by AB 1795 (Ch. 110, Stats. 1998).

(5) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 12050 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

12050. (a) (1) (A) The sheriff of a county, upon proof that the person applying is of good moral character, that good cause exists for the issuance, and that the person applying satisfies any one of the conditions specified in subparagraph (D) and has completed a course of training as described in subparagraph (E), may issue to that person a license to carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person in either one of the following formats:

(i) A license to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(ii) Where the population of the county is less than 200,000 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census, a license to carry loaded and exposed in that county a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(B) The chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county, upon proof that the person applying is of



good moral character, that good cause exists for the issuance, and that the person applying is a resident of that city and has completed a course of training as described in subparagraph (E), may issue to that person a license to carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person in either one of the following formats:

(i) A license to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(ii) Where the population of the county in which the city is located is less than 200,000 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census, a license to carry loaded and exposed in that county a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(C) The sheriff of a county or the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county, upon proof that the person applying is of good moral character, that good cause exists for the issuance, and that the person applying is a person who has been deputized or appointed as a peace officer pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 830.6 by that sheriff or that chief of police or other head of a municipal police department, may issue to that person a license to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person. Direct or indirect fees for the issuance of a license pursuant to this subparagraph may be waived. The fact that an applicant for a license to carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person has been deputized or appointed as a peace officer pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 830.6 shall be considered only for the purpose of issuing a license pursuant to this subparagraph, and shall not be considered for the purpose of issuing a license pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B).

(D) For the purpose of subparagraph (A), the applicant shall satisfy any one of the following:

(i) Is a resident of the county or a city within the county.

(ii) Spends a substantial period of time in the applicant's principal place of employment or business in the county or a city within the county.

(E) (i) For new license applicants, the course of training may be any course acceptable to the licensing authority, shall not exceed 16 hours, and shall include instruction on at least firearm safety and the law regarding the permissible use of a firearm. Notwithstanding this clause, the licensing authority may require a community college course certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, up to a maximum of 24 hours, but only if required uniformly of all license applicants without exception.

(ii) For license renewal applicants, the course of training may be any course acceptable to the licensing authority, shall be no less than



four hours, and shall include instruction on at least firearm safety and the law regarding the permissible use of a firearm.

(2) (A) (i) Except as otherwise provided in clause (ii), subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, and subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (f), a license issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) is valid for any period of time not to exceed two years from the date of the license.

(ii) If the licensee's place of employment or business was the basis for issuance of the license pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), the license is valid for any period of time not to exceed 90 days from the date of the license. The license shall be valid only in the county in which the license was originally issued. The licensee shall give a copy of this license to the licensing authority of the city, county, or city and county in which he or she resides. The licensing authority that originally issued the license shall inform the licensee verbally and in writing in at least 16-point type of this obligation to give a copy of the license to the licensing authority of the city, county, or city and county of residence. Any application to renew or extend the validity of, or reissue, the license may be granted only upon the concurrence of the licensing authority that originally issued the license and the licensing authority of the city, county, or city and county in which the licensee resides.

(B) A license issued pursuant to subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) to a peace officer appointed pursuant to Section 830.6 is valid for any period of time not to exceed four years from the date of the license, except that the license shall be invalid upon the conclusion of the person's appointment pursuant to Section 830.6 if the four-year period has not otherwise expired or any other condition imposed pursuant to this section does not limit the validity of the license to a shorter time period.

(C) A license issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) is valid for any period of time not to exceed three years from the date of the license if the license is issued to any of the following individuals:

- (i) A judge of a California court of record.
- (ii) A full-time court commissioner of a California court of record.
- (iii) A judge of a federal court.
- (iv) A magistrate of a federal court.

(3) For purposes of this subdivision, a city or county may be considered an applicant's "principal place of employment or business" only if the applicant is physically present in the jurisdiction during a substantial part of his or her working hours for purposes of that employment or business.

(b) A license may include any reasonable restrictions or conditions which the issuing authority deems warranted, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner, and circumstances under



which the person may carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(c) Any restrictions imposed pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be indicated on any license issued.

(d) A license shall not be issued if the Department of Justice determines that the person is within a prohibited class described in Section 12021 or 12021.1 of this code or Section 8100 or 8103 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(e) (1) The license shall be revoked by the local licensing authority if at any time either the local licensing authority is notified by the Department of Justice that a licensee is within a prohibited class described in Section 12021 or 12021.1 of this code or Section 8100 or 8103 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or the local licensing authority determines that the person is within a prohibited class described in Section 12021 or 12021.1 of this code or Section 8100 or 8103 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(2) If at any time the Department of Justice determines that a licensee is within a prohibited class described in Section 12021 or 12021.1 of this code or Section 8100 or 8103 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the department shall immediately notify the local licensing authority of the determination.

(3) If the local licensing authority revokes the license, the Department of Justice shall be notified of the revocation pursuant to Section 12053. The licensee shall also be immediately notified of the revocation in writing.

(f) (1) A person issued a license pursuant to this section may apply to the licensing authority for an amendment to the license to do one or more of the following:

(A) Add or delete authority to carry a particular pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(B) Authorize the licensee to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(C) If the population of the county is less than 200,000 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census, authorize the licensee to carry loaded and exposed in that county a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(D) Change any restrictions or conditions on the license, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner, and circumstances under which the person may carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(2) When the licensee changes his or her address, the license shall be amended to reflect the new address and a new license shall be issued pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3) If the licensing authority amends the license, a new license shall be issued to the licensee reflecting the amendments.

(4) (A) The licensee shall notify the licensing authority in writing within 10 days of any change in the licensee's place of residence.



(B) If the license is one to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person, then it may not be revoked solely because the licensee changes his or her place of residence to another county if the licensee has not breached any conditions or restrictions set forth in the license or has not fallen into a prohibited class described in Section 12021 or 12021.1 of this code or Section 8100 or 8103 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. However, any license issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall expire 90 days after the licensee moves from the county of issuance if the licensee's place of residence was the basis for issuance of the license.

(C) If the license is one to carry loaded and exposed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person, the license shall be revoked immediately if the licensee changes his or her place of residence to another county.

(5) An amendment to the license does not extend the original expiration date of the license and the license shall be subject to renewal at the same time as if the license had not been amended.

(6) An application to amend a license does not constitute an application for renewal of the license.

(g) Nothing in this article shall preclude the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city from entering an agreement with the sheriff of the county in which the city is located for the sheriff to process all applications for licenses, renewals of licenses, and amendments to licenses, pursuant to this article.

SEC. 2. Section 12050.2 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

12050.2. Within three months of the effective date of the act adding this section, each licensing authority shall publish and make available a written policy summarizing the provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 12050.

SEC. 3. Section 12051 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

12051. (a) (1) Applications for licenses shall be filed in writing, signed by the applicant, and shall state the name, occupation, residence and business address of the applicant, his or her age, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, and reason for desiring a license to carry the weapon. Any license issued upon the application shall set forth the foregoing data and shall, in addition, contain a description of the weapon or weapons authorized to be carried, giving the name of the manufacturer, the serial number, and the caliber. The license issued to the licensee may be laminated.

(2) Applications for amendments to licenses shall be filed in writing and signed by the applicant, and shall state what type of amendment is sought pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 12050 and the reason for desiring the amendment.

(3) (A) Applications for amendments to licenses, applications for licenses, amendments to licenses, and licenses shall be uniform



throughout the state, upon forms to be prescribed by the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall convene a committee composed of one representative of the California State Sheriffs' Association, one representative of the California Police Chiefs' Association, and one representative of the Department of Justice to develop a standard application form for licenses. The application shall include a section summarizing the statutory provisions of state law that result in the automatic denial of a license. The Attorney General shall adopt and implement this standard application form for licenses on or before July 1, 1999.

(B) The forms shall contain a provision whereby the applicant attests to the truth of statements contained in the application.

(C) An applicant shall not be required to complete any additional application or form for a license, or to provide any information other than that necessary to complete the standard application form described in subparagraph (A), except to clarify or interpret information provided by the applicant on the standard application form.

(D) The Attorney General may adopt and enforce regulations that are necessary, appropriate, or useful to interpret and implement this paragraph pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. Pending the adoption of those regulations, the Attorney General may adopt emergency regulations that shall become effective immediately. The adoption of the emergency regulations shall be subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the emergency regulations shall only be effective until June 30, 1999, or on the effective date of the regulations adopted by the Attorney General to implement this paragraph, whichever occurs first, at which time the emergency regulations shall be deemed to be repealed.

(b) Any person who files an application required by subdivision (a) knowing that statements contained therein are false is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement on the application regarding any of the following shall be guilty of a felony:

(1) The denial or revocation of a license, or the denial of an amendment to a license, issued pursuant to Section 12050.

(2) A criminal conviction.

(3) A finding of not guilty by reason of insanity.

(4) The use of a controlled substance.

(5) A dishonorable discharge from military service.

(6) A commitment to a mental institution.

(7) A renunciation of United States citizenship.

SEC. 4. Section 12052.5 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

12052.5. The licensing authority shall give written notice to the applicant indicating if the license is approved or denied within 90



days of the initial application for a new license or a license renewal or 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the Department of Justice, whichever is later.

SEC. 5. Section 12053 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

12053. (a) A record of the following shall be maintained in the office of the licensing authority:

- (1) The denial of a license.
- (2) The denial of an amendment to a license.
- (3) The issuance of a license.
- (4) The amendment of a license.
- (5) The revocation of a license.

(b) Copies of each of the following shall be filed immediately by the issuing officer or authority with the Department of Justice:

- (1) The denial of a license.
- (2) The denial of an amendment to a license.
- (3) The issuance of a license.
- (4) The amendment of a license.
- (5) The revocation of a license.

(c) Commencing on or before January 1, 2000, and annually thereafter, each licensing authority shall submit to the Attorney General the total number of licenses issued to peace officers, pursuant to subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 12050, and to judges, pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 12050. The Attorney General shall collect and record the information submitted pursuant to this subdivision by county and licensing authority.

SEC. 6. Section 12054 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

12054. (a) Each applicant for a new license or for the renewal of a license shall pay at the time of filing his or her application a fee determined by the Department of Justice not to exceed the application processing costs of the Department of Justice for the direct costs of furnishing the report required by Section 12052. After the department establishes fees sufficient to reimburse the department for processing costs, fees charged shall increase at a rate not to exceed the legislatively approved annual cost-of-living adjustments for the department's budget. The officer receiving the application and the fee shall transmit the fee, with the fingerprints if required, to the Department of Justice. The licensing authority of any city, city and county, or county may charge an additional fee in an amount equal to the actual costs for processing the application for a new license, excluding fingerprint and training costs, but in no case to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100), and shall transmit the additional fee, if any, to the city, city and county, or county treasury. The first 20 percent of this additional local fee may be collected upon filing of the initial application. The balance of the fee shall be collected only upon issuance of the license.



The licensing authority may charge an additional fee, not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25), for processing the application for a license renewal, and shall transmit an additional fee, if any, to the city, city and county, or county treasury. These local fees may be increased at a rate not to exceed any increase in the California Consumer Price Index as compiled and reported by the California Department of Industrial Relations.

(b) In the case of an amended license pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 12050, the licensing authority of any city, city and county, or county may charge a fee, not to exceed ten dollars (\$10), except that the fee may be increased at a rate not to exceed any increase in the California Consumer Price Index as compiled and reported by the California Department of Industrial Relations, for processing the amended license and shall transmit the fee to the city, city and county, or county treasury.

(c) If psychological testing on the initial application is required by the licensing authority, the license applicant shall be referred to a licensed psychologist used by the licensing authority for the psychological testing of its own employees. The applicant may be charged for the actual cost of the testing in an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150). Additional psychological testing of an applicant seeking license renewal shall be required only if there is compelling evidence to indicate that a test is necessary. The cost to the applicant for this additional testing shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

(d) Except as authorized pursuant to subdivisions (a), (b), and (c), no requirement, charge, assessment, fee, or condition that requires the payment of any additional funds by the applicant may be imposed by any licensing authority as a condition of the application for a license.

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims Fund.

Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act shall become operative on the same date that the act takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

